

May 2001
JOURNAL

May Town Meeting Agenda

Followed by Work session

May 21, 2001 7:00 p.m.

Meet the Candidates at the Town Meeting May 21st.

Town Adoption of the 2001/02 Budget

Side Lot Line Variance request for 3916 Washington Street

Residential Parking Permit Stickers

**Vehicles parked on residential permit parking streets
without permit stickers are now being ticketed.**

Farmers' Market

The Farmers' Market is now open every Saturday 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
in the Town lot adjacent to the Train Station

**Contact us at 3710 Mitchell Street, Kensington, MD 20895. Phone: 301-949-2424
FAX: 301-949-4925. e-mail: mayor.council@tok.org**

Town's Summer Meeting Schedule

June 4, 2001:	6:00 p.m. Town Elections (2 council member positions)
June 18, 2001:	7:00 p.m. Town Meeting followed by Worksession
July 2, 2001:	7:00 p.m. Organizational Meeting
July 30, 2001:	7:00 p.m. Town Meeting followed by Worksession
August 27, 2001:	7:00 p.m. Town Meeting followed by Worksession

Town Elections Two Council Member Positions Two Year Terms

June 4, 2001 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Nominations: Persons may be nominated for elective office in the Town by filing a certificate of nomination at the Town Office by 4:00 p.m. on or before the second Monday in May (May 14, 2001).

Voter Qualifications: Every person who is a citizen of the U.S., at least 18 years of age, has resided within the corporate limits of the Town for thirty days and is registered in accordance with the provisions of the Town Charter shall be a qualified. Voter of the Town and shall be entitled to vote at any or all Town Elections.

Voter Registration: Registration by a Town resident with the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors of Elections shall be deemed registration for Town elections. Applications for such registration must be received at the County Board by 9:00 p.m. on the fifth Monday prior to an election (April 30, 2001). Please note: you must be registered by the County with a Town address.

Town citizens, who do not register to vote with the County, may register with the Town at the Town office, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Town registration books close on May 29, 2001.

Absentee Voting: Any qualified and registered voter may apply at the Town Office during regular office hours for an absentee ballot if he or she cannot be present at any upcoming Town election.

Building Permits Issued

Renovations at 3704 Perry Avenue
Addition at 3815 Calvert Place
New building at 3700 Plyers Mill Road
Apron at 10736 Connecticut Avenue

Mayor's Report

Howard Avenue Revitalization

Howard Avenue is well underway. The section of sidewalk between Aunt Betty's General Store and the bookstore are near completion. The contractors have been working to complete the sidewalk before the Garden Party on May 4th.

Metropolitan Avenue Street Scape

The Mayor will attend a pre-construction meeting May 17th with State Highway Administration. Construction begins on May 21st.

Meetings or Events Attended by the Mayor

The Mayor has had several meetings with Montgomery County to discuss the progress on Howard Avenue. She also met with them to examine the trees planted in Phase I. They appear to be in better shape this spring. We are no longer concerned about their health but will continue to water this year.

The Mayor held a quarterly meeting with the Town merchants on April 5th. All who attended felt this to be a very productive round table discussion.

She attended a Frederick County Chapter meeting as a Maryland Municipal League Board Member.

She attended a Washington County Chapter meeting as a Maryland Municipal League Board Member.

She attended a Maryland Municipal League Board of Directors' Meeting in Annapolis.

We thank Louise Hamilton and Shirley Watson for once again having a very successful Earth/Arbor Day.

Announcements

Pat McAuley has accepted a position in another municipality closer to her home in Annapolis. Her last day with the Town of Kensington was April 30th. We wish her well in her new job.

3920 Baltimore Street is to be heard by the Board of Appeals on Sept. 26th at 1:30 p.m.
3802 Washington Street is on the Board of Appeals for July 18, 1:00 p.m.

If you have shrubs or trees hanging over Town right-of-way impairing pedestrians traffic, please trim them back to your property line.

The Founders Day celebration was a wonderful event. The weather was pleasant and all who attended had a great time.

The following were nominated for the Spirit of Kensington Award:

Barry Peoples, Judy Hanks-Henn, James Hawkins, Ken Duggin, Lynn Raufaste, the Town Crew, Leanne Pfautz, Ann Pfautz, Roger Lund, George Myers, Carl Mahany, Rose Starin, Wat Stewart, Kensington Historical Society.

Mayor Raufaste and Council Member Pfautz were honored to be nominated but declined to be considered.

We thank you for taking the time to write and send in your nominations. All who were nominated were deserving of the award.

The Mayor thanks the Chairman of Founders Day Roger Lund who also won the Spirit of Kensington Award. Roger has chaired the Founders Day committee for 2 years and been actively involved in support of Town activities.

A special thank you goes to the following for their help with Founders Day:

American Self Storage
The Antique Emporium
Aunt Betty's General Store
The Bakers' Union
Black Belt Martial Arts
Café Monet
Five 'n Time
Hawkin's Market
John Smith
Johnson's Florist and Garden Center
The Kensington Caboose
The Kensington Lion's Club
Kensington Parkwood Elementary School Chorus
Manor Care at Circle Manor
Pritchard's
Safeway
St. Paul's Church
The Tea Room

Council Member Bruch's Report

I am pleased to announce Kensington's first ever Driveway Improvement Program. Any resident or business interested in a new driveway or repairs to an existing driveway can participate. The Town will include your driveway work with the Department of Public Works to achieve optimum pricing. The Town will also waive permit fees and public space bonds or deposits for all participants in the program. If you have questions please contact me or Mark Joel, Director of Public Works.

At the request of the Town and the Kensington Business District Association for help with the Plyers Mill Road and Metropolitan Avenue traffic light, on April 17th the State Highway Administration modified the traffic signal to 4-way flashing red. A flashing red light should be handled like a stop sign to STOP! We are interested in knowing what you think about this change.

I drafted a letter to the State Highway Administration concerning signal delays associated with the Washington Street pedestrian light.

To improve sight-lines and visibility when turning onto Connecticut Avenue, I directed the Director of Public Works to consolidate street/traffic signage wherever possible at the following Connecticut Avenue intersections: Washington, Prospect and Baltimore Streets.

The Town picnic will be on Saturday, June 16th at Kensington Cabin Park. Reserve the date!

Pfautz's Report

At the last meeting of the Committee (March 20, 2001), a list of traffic “hot spots” around Town was developed. Since then, the Committee has updated and slightly revised this list in response to further comments received from residents and business owners in Town. This list of “hotspots” and related traffic issues was developed by the Committee to assist our Country officers by identifying those areas in Town in most need of traffic enforcement attention.

Town of Kensington Traffic Hot Spots

- a. Connecticut Avenue at Washington Street (speeding)
- b. Intersection of Oberon and Wheatley Streets (speeding, failure to stop at stop sign)
- c. Intersection of St. Paul Street and Plyers Mill Road (speeding, failure to stop at stop sign)
- d. Intersection of Fredrick Avenue and Wake Drive (lack of adherence to no left turn sign)
- e. Traffic on Lexington Street between Plyers Mill Road and University Boulevard (speeding, failure to stop at stop signs, cut-through truck traffic, excessively loud car radios)
- f. Kensington parkway (failing to stop at stop signs)
- g. Intersection of Armory and Connecticut Avenue (speeding, cut-through trucks; cut through traffic not adhering to time restrictions)
- h. Intersection of Perry Avenue and Lexington Street (time restriction signs and stop signs are being ignored)
- i. Intersection of Kensington Parkway and Kent Street (failure to stop at stop sign, lack of adherence to no left turn sign)
- j. Intersection of Kent Street and Frederick Avenue (failure to stop at stop sign; lack of adherence to no left turn sign)
- k. Intersection of Howard and Connecticut Avenues (illegal left hand turns, blocking of intersection by northbound Connecticut Avenue traffic, cut through Safeway lot to avoid intersection congestion)
- l. Howard Avenue East of Connecticut (speeding)
- m. Metropolitan (speeding)

Town Meeting

April 30, 2001

The Meeting was Called or order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Raufaste with Council Members Bruch, O'Donnell, Pfautz and Tucker, and Clerk Treasurer McAuley present.

Council Actions

Council Member O'Donnell moved to approve the minutes. Seconded and passed unanimously.

Council Member O'Donnell moved to keep the tax rate at .20 per \$100. Seconded and passed unanimously with the Mayor concurring.

Council Member O'Donnell introduced the 2001/02 budget.

Council Member Tucker moved to shift \$15,000 from Public Works salaries to Landscaping for the current year. Seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat McAuley, Clerk Treasurer

Two long time residents of the Town passed away in April.

The Town of Kensington expresses its deepest condolences to the families of

**Mr. David deBoinville
and
Ms. Jessie Walsh**